

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

COMPETITIVE PRODUCT PRICES  
INBOUND PARCEL POST (AT UPU RATES)

Docket No. CP2015-24

**NOTICE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OF FILING  
CHANGES IN RATES NOT OF GENERAL APPLICABILITY FOR  
INBOUND PARCEL POST (AT UPU RATES) AND APPLICATION  
FOR NON-PUBLIC TREATMENT**  
(December 16, 2014)

In accordance with 39 C.F.R. § 3015.5, the United States Postal Service (Postal Service) hereby gives notice of a change in rates not of general applicability for Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates). Prices and classifications not of general applicability for Inbound Air Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) were previously established by the Decision of the Governors of the United States Postal Service on the Establishment of New Prices and Classifications for Inbound Air Parcel Post (at UPU Rates), issued on November 16, 2009 (Governors' Decision No. 09-15). The Postal Regulatory Commission (Commission) previously determined that Inbound Air Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) is appropriately classified as a competitive product and that an initial review of the rates indicated compliance with statutory requirements.<sup>1</sup> On August 19, 2014, the Commission determined that Inbound Surface Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) also is appropriately classified as a competitive product and that an initial review of the rates indicated compliance with statutory requirements.<sup>2</sup> As part of the Order No. 2160, Inbound Air Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) and Inbound Surface Parcel Post (at UPU

<sup>1</sup> PRC Order No. 362, Order Adding Inbound Air Parcel Post at UPU Rates to Competitive Product List, Docket Nos. MC2010-11 and CP2010-11, December 15, 2009, at 8-9.

<sup>2</sup> PRC Order No. 2160, Order Approving Product List Transfer, Docket No. MC2014-28, August 19, 2014, page 8.

Rates) were merged into a single product identified as Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates). With this filing, the Postal Service notifies the Commission of changes to those rates for Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) that are intended to take effect January 1, 2015.

The rates and supporting documents establishing compliance with 39 U.S.C. § 3633(a)(2) and 39 C.F.R. § 3015.5 are being filed separately under seal with the Commission. The Postal Service's Application for Non-public Treatment of those materials is included with this Notice as Attachment 1. A redacted copy of Governors' Decision No. 14-04 changing the rates and the classification for Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) is included as Attachment 2. A redacted version of Universal Postal Union International Bureau (IB) Circular 206, dated December 1, 2014, which sets the new rates on Table 1 of page two, is included as Attachment 3.<sup>3</sup> The certified statement required by 39 C.F.R. § 3015.5(c)(2) is included as Attachment 4. A redacted version of the supporting financial documentation are included with this filing as separate Excel files.

***I. Explanation of Classification and Rates***

No changes to the classification of Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) are included with this Notice. The Postal Service is setting the rates in accordance with the terms of Governors' Decision No. 14-04, included as Attachment 2 to this document.

***II. Application for Non-Public Treatment***

The Postal Service maintains that certain portions of the Governors' Decision, the new rates, the inflation notification letter and related financial information should

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<sup>3</sup> IB Circular 169, dated September 29, 2014, initially indicated erroneous inward land rates for the Postal Service. Those rates were corrected in IB Circular 206.

remain confidential. The Postal Service provides its Application for Non-Public Treatment of materials filed under seal as Attachment 1.

### ***III. Management Analysis***

In PRC Order No. 2102, the Commission requested that the Postal Service provide an update to the Management Analysis originally in support of the establishment of rates for Inbound Air Parcel Post (at UPU Rates).<sup>4</sup> Specifically, the Commission requested;

data and information concerning the Postal Service's submission of formal documentation to the UPU in support of an inflation-linked adjustment for the inward land rate it receives from other postal administrations and transmission of responses to the UPU survey to justify bonus payments; the date the UPU advises the United States that the inward land rate applicable to its inbound air parcels would be per item plus per kilo special drawing rights (SDRs); the inward land rate calculation for the pertinent year (or period); the SDR equivalent in U.S. dollars; and the estimated cost coverage for the pertinent calendar year.

In response, the Postal Service provides the following:

- The documentation in support of inflation-linked adjustment for inward land rates is included as Attachment 5.
- The Postal Service has updated its advisory delivery information in a timely manner in the UPU's online compendium, thereby justifying its bonus.
- The date that the UPU advised the United States of the Inward Land Rate and the Calculation<sup>5</sup> for the pertinent period is provided in International Bureau Circular 206, Attachment 3 to this document.

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<sup>4</sup> While the Postal Service does not believe that such information is relevant to a determination of whether or not the rates presented in this notice are in compliance with the requirements of 39 U.S.C. § 3633(a)(2), the requested information from the Management Analysis is provided.

<sup>5</sup> The Inward Land Rate calculation is performed by the UPU based on data provided by the Postal Service. The results of the calculation are provided in IB Circular 206.

- The SDR conversion rate to U.S. dollars used for the cost coverage analysis was 1 SDR is equal to \$1.45676 USD.<sup>6</sup>
- The estimated cost coverage for the pertinent year is available in the attached financial information.

#### **IV. Conclusion**

For the reasons discussed above, the Postal Service has established that these new rates for Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) are in compliance with the requirements of 39 U.S.C. § 3633(a)(2). Accordingly, the Postal Service respectfully submits that it has met its burden of providing notice to the Commission of changes in rates within the scope established by Governors' Decision No. 14-04, as required by 39 U.S.C. § 3632(b)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
By its attorneys:

Anthony F. Alverno  
Chief Counsel,  
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December 16, 2014

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<sup>6</sup> This conversion rate is based on the publication of the SDR value by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on December 5, 2014. The conversation rate at the time of settlement may vary based on the IMF value of the SDR at time of settlement.

**APPLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
FOR NON-PUBLIC TREATMENT OF MATERIALS**

In accordance with 39 C.F.R. § 3007.21, the United States Postal Service (Postal Service) hereby applies for non-public treatment of certain materials filed with the Commission in this docket. The materials pertain to the establishment of prices and classifications not of general applicability for Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) established in Governors' Decision No. 14-04. The rates and supporting documents establishing compliance with 39 U.S.C. §§ 3632-3633 and 39 C.F.R. §§ 3015.5 and 3015.7 are being filed separately under seal with the Commission. Redacted copies of these materials are filed publicly, including redacted versions of supporting financial documentation filed as separate Excel documents.

The Postal Service hereby furnishes the justification required for this application by 39 C.F.R. § 3007.21(c) below.

**(1) The rationale for claiming that the materials are non-public, including the specific statutory basis for the claim, and a statement justifying application of the provision(s);**

The materials designated as non-public consist of information of a commercial nature that under good business practice would not be publicly disclosed. In the Postal Service's view, this information would be exempt from mandatory disclosure pursuant to 39 U.S.C. § 410(c)(2) and 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3) and (4).<sup>1</sup> Because the portions of the materials that the Postal Service is filing only under seal fall within the scope of

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<sup>1</sup> In appropriate circumstances, the Commission may determine the appropriate level of confidentiality to be afforded to such information after weighing the nature and extent of the likely commercial injury to the Postal Service against the public interest in maintaining the financial transparency of a government establishment competing in commercial markets. 39 U.S.C. § 504(g)(3)(A). The Commission has indicated that "likely commercial injury" should be construed broadly to encompass other types of injury, such as harms to privacy, deliberative process, or law enforcement interests. PRC Order No. 194, Second Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to Establish a Procedure for According Appropriate Confidentiality, Docket No. RM2008-1, Mar. 20, 2009, at 11.

information not required to be publicly disclosed, the Postal Service asks the Commission to support its determination that these materials are exempt from public disclosure and grant its application for their non-public treatment.

**(2) Identification, including name, phone number, and email address for any third-party who is known to have a proprietary interest in the materials, or if such an identification is sensitive, contact information for a Postal Service employee who shall provide notice to that third party;**

In the case of the UPU rates such as those at issue here, the Postal Service believes that the postal operators whose governments are members of the UPU are the only third parties with a proprietary interest in the materials. Due to language and cultural differences as well as the sensitive nature of the Postal Service's rate relationship with the affected foreign postal operators, the Postal Service proposes that a designated Postal Service employee serve as the point of contact for any notices to the relevant postal operators.<sup>2</sup> The Postal Service identifies as an appropriate contact person Peter Chandler, Acting Manager, UPU Relations, International Postal Affairs. Mr. Chandler's phone number is (202) 268-5549, and his email address is [peter.r.chandler@usps.gov](mailto:peter.r.chandler@usps.gov).

In view of the practical difficulties, the Postal Service has not undertaken to inform all affected postal operators about the nature and scope of this filing and about the ability to address any confidentiality concerns directly with the Commission as provided in 39 C.F.R. § 3007.20(b). To the extent that the Postal Service's filing in the absence of actual notice might be construed as beyond the scope of the Commission's

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<sup>2</sup> The Postal Service acknowledges that 39 C.F.R. § 3007.21(c)(2) appears to contemplate only situations where a third party's identification is "sensitive" as permitting the designation of a Postal Service employee who shall act as an intermediary for notice purposes. To the extent that the Postal Service's response might be construed as beyond the scope of this exception, the Postal Service respectfully requests a waiver that would allow it to designate a Postal Service employee as the contact person under these circumstances, in light of the practical considerations outlined herein.

rules, the Postal Service respectfully requests a waiver that would allow it to forgo providing a notice to each postal operator. It is impractical to communicate with dozens of operators in multiple languages about this technical regulatory matter.

**(3) A description of the materials claimed to be non-public in a manner that, without revealing the materials at issue, would allow a person to thoroughly evaluate the basis for the claim that they are non-public;**

In connection with its Notice filed in this docket, the Postal Service included the new rates, Governors' Decision No. 14-04, and supporting documentation in the form of financial work papers. These materials were filed under seal, with redacted copies filed publicly. The Postal Service maintains that the redacted portions of the rate chart and related financial information should remain confidential.

The redactions applied to the rate chart and related financial work papers protect commercially sensitive information such as rates, underlying costs and assumptions, pricing formulas, and cost coverage projections. To the extent practicable, the Postal Service has limited its redactions to the actual information it has determined to be exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b).

**(4) Particular identification of the nature and extent of commercial harm alleged and the likelihood of such harm;**

If the portions of the rate chart, Governors' Decision No. 14-04, and related financial work papers that the Postal Service determined to be protected from disclosure due to their commercially sensitive nature were to be disclosed publicly, the Postal Service considers that it is quite likely that it would suffer commercial harm. Information about pricing is commercially sensitive, and the Postal Service does not believe that it would be disclosed under good business practices. Competitors could use the information to assess the rates charged by the Postal Service to foreign postal

operators for any possible comparative vulnerabilities and focus sales and marketing efforts on those areas, to the detriment of the Postal Service. The Postal Service considers this to be a highly probable outcome that would result from public disclosure of the redacted material.

The financial work papers include specific information such as costs, projections of variables, and cost coverage. All of this information is highly confidential in the business world. If this information were made public, the Postal Service's competitors would have the advantage of being able to assess the Postal Service costs and pricing. Thus, competitors would be able to take advantage of the information to offer lower pricing to customers (which can include foreign posts, which are not required to use the Postal Service for delivery of parcels destined to the United States), while subsidizing any losses with profits from other customers. Eventually, this could freeze the Postal Service out of the relevant inbound delivery services market. Additionally, foreign postal operators or other potential customers could use costing information to their advantage in negotiating the terms of their own agreements with the Postal Service. Given that these spreadsheets are filed in their native format, the Postal Service's assessment is that the likelihood that the information would be used in this way is great.

Potential customers (which can include foreign posts) could also deduce from the rates provided in the work papers whether additional margin for net profit exists. From this information, each foreign postal operator or customer could attempt to negotiate ever-decreasing prices, such that the Postal Service's ability to negotiate competitive yet financially sound rates would be compromised.

Volume and price information included in the financial spreadsheets also consists of sensitive commercial information of foreign postal operators. Disclosure of such information could be used by competitors of a postal operator to assess the operators' underlying market size and its costs, and thereby develop a benchmark for the development of a competitive alternative.

**(5) At least one specific hypothetical, illustrative example of each alleged harm;**

Harm: Public disclosure of information in the rate chart, Governors' Decision No. 14-04, or financial work papers would be used by competitors and customers to the detriment of the Postal Service.

Hypothetical: A competing package delivery service obtains a copy of the unredacted version of the financial work papers from the Postal Regulatory Commission's website. It analyzes the work papers to determine what the Postal Service would have to charge its customers (which may include foreign posts) in order for the Postal Service to meet its minimum statutory obligations for cost coverage and contribution to institutional costs. The competing package delivery service then sets its own rates for products similar to what the Postal Service offers other posts under that threshold and markets its ability to guarantee to beat the Postal Service on price for inbound air parcels. By sustaining this below-market strategy for a relatively short period of time, the competitor, or all of the Postal Service's competitors acting in a likewise fashion, would freeze the Postal Service out of the inbound air parcel delivery market.

Harm: Public disclosure of information in the rate chart or financial work papers would be used by a foreign postal operator's competitors to its detriment.

Hypothetical: A competing international delivery service obtains a copy of the unredacted version of the financial work papers from the Postal Regulatory

Commission's website. The competitor analyzes the work papers to assess a foreign postal operator's underlying costs and volumes for the corresponding products. The competitor uses that information to assess the market potential and negotiate with U.S. customs brokers and freight companies to develop lower-cost alternatives.

**(6) The extent of protection from public disclosure deemed to be necessary;**

The Postal Service maintains that the redacted portions of the materials filed non-publicly should be withheld from persons involved in competitive decision-making in the relevant market for inbound parcel delivery (including both private sector integrators and foreign postal operators), as well as their consultants and attorneys. Additionally, the Postal Service believes that foreign postal operators, as well as actual or potential customers of a postal operator for this or similar products should not be provided access to the non-public financial work papers.

**(7) The length of time deemed necessary for the non-public materials to be protected from public disclosure with justification thereof; and**

The Commission's regulations provide that non-public materials shall lose non-public status ten years after the date of filing with the Commission, unless the Commission or its authorized representative enters an order extending the duration of that status. 39 C.F.R. § 3007.30.

**(8) Any other factors or reasons relevant to support the application.**

Inward land rates are not available publicly. Rather, they are circulated to postal operators and government ministries through UPU International Bureau circular and accessible on a password-protected website. Hence, they are considered by postal operators to be commercially sensitive.

**DECISION OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE ON CHANGES  
IN RATES AND CLASSES FOR INBOUND PARCEL POST (AT UPU RATES) (GOVERNORS'  
DECISION No. 14-04)**

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June 18, 2014

**STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION AND JUSTIFICATION**

Pursuant to our authority under sections 3632 of title 39, as amended by the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006 ("PAEA"), we establish price and classification changes for the Postal Service's shipping services (competitive products). This decision establishes prices for Inbound Parcel Post at Universal Postal Union (UPU) rates for which there is no contractual relationship governing the price with the tendering postal operator. The attachment includes the draft Mail Classification Schedule sections with changes in classification language in legislative format.

Governors' Decision 09-15 previously established prices and classifications for Inbound Air Parcel Post (at UPU rates). That decision explained that under the Universal Postal Convention, postal operators tender air parcels to each other for delivery in the destination country at prices set by the UPU Postal Operations Council, except where postal operators have negotiated alternative prices for parcels. The method by which prices, or inward land rates, are established is set forth in the UPU Parcel Post Regulations, and is similar for both air and surface parcels.

Consistent with Governors Decision 09-15 regarding the approval of the prices for Inbound Air Parcel Post (at UPU rates), we conclude that the inward land rates for Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU rates), including air and surface parcels, should satisfy the requirements of 39 U.S.C. §§ 3632-3633 and 39 C.F.R. §§ 3015.5 and 3015.7. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We also approve the classification changes, finding that they are appropriate and consistent with the regulatory criteria, as indicated by management. Pursuant to this decision, management may file the

applicable inward land rates for Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU rates) with the Postal Regulatory Commission, including both air and surface parcels, as appropriate.

**ORDER**

In accordance with the foregoing Decision of the Governors, the prices for Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU rates) and the changes in classification necessary to implement those prices are hereby approved and ordered into effect. We direct management to file appropriate notice of these changes with the Postal Regulatory Commission as needed. Prices and classification changes established pursuant to this Decision will take effect concurrently with the transfer of Inbound Surface Parcel Post (at UPU rates) from the market dominant product list to the competitive product list.

By The Governors:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mickey D. Barnett", is written over a horizontal line.

Mickey D. Barnett  
Chairman



Dear Sir/Madam,

The purpose of this circular is to inform designated operators of changes to the inward land rates (ILRs) applicable from 1 January 2015 until 30 June 2015, published through circular 169 of 29 September 2014. You will find the list of updated ILRs in Annex 1. These ILRs are based on the validation of parcel service features as prescribed in articles RC 195 and RC 196 of the Parcel Post Regulations, and resolution CEP 3/2014.1.

The changes concern the ILRs of the following designated operators:

- Belarus (inflation adjustment);
- British Virgin Islands (compliance with data entry requirements in Parcel Post Compendium Online);
- French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte, Réunion and Saint Pierre and Miquelon (inflation adjustment);
- Gabon (correction to calculation file);
- Saudi Arabia (correction to calculation file);
- United States of America (correction to calculation file).

Any queries regarding the content of this circular should be sent to the International Bureau's Remuneration Programme to the attention of Mr Paul Schoorl, Remuneration Expert, at [paul.schoorl@upu.int](mailto:paul.schoorl@upu.int).

Yours faithfully,

Murray Buchanan  
Director of Economic and Regulatory Affairs

**Table 1 – List of changes to inward land rates effective from 1 January 2015**

ISO	Designated operator (DO)	Rate per parcel (SDR)	Rate per kg (SDR)
BY	Belarus		
GF	– French Guiana		
GP	– Guadeloupe		
MQ	– Martinique		
YT	– Mayotte		
RE	– Réunion		
PM	– Saint Pierre and Miquelon		
GA	Gabon – Surface parcels – Air parcels		
VG	– Virgin Islands		
SA	Saudi Arabia – Surface parcels – Air parcels		
US	United States of America – Surface parcels – Air parcels		

**Table 2 – Changes to the service features achieved by designated operators in comparison with initial published ILRs of circular 169 of 29 September 2014 (for a complete description of the service features, see article RC 195 of the Parcel Post Regulations)**

ISO	Designated operator	Bonus for service feature 1 – Track and trace: 25%				Bonus for service feature 2 – Home delivery: 5%	Bonus for service feature 3 – Delivery standards: 5%	Bonus for service feature 4 – Internet-Based Inquiry System: 5%
		C, D, H/I bonuses	E and F events – Bonus: 5%	RESDES/PREDES messages – Bonus: 5%	H/I over D – Bonus: 5%			
VG	– Virgin Islands							

**Certification of Prices for the Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates)**

I, Steven Phelps, Manager, Regulatory Reporting and Cost Analysis, Finance Department, United States Postal Service, am familiar with the prices for Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates). The prices were established by the Decision of the Governors of the United States Postal Service on the Establishment of Prices and Classifications for Inbound Air Parcel Post at UPU Rates, issued November 16, 2009 (Governors' Decision No. 09-15) and the Decision of the Governors of the United States Postal Service on Changes in Rates and Classes for Inbound Surface Parcel Post (at UPU Rates), issued June 18, 2014 (Governors' Decision No. 14-04).

I hereby certify that the numerical cost values underlying the prices for Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) are the appropriate costs to use in the formulas and represents the best available information. The prices demonstrate that Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) should cover its attributable costs and preclude the subsidization of competitive products by market dominant products. International competitive mail accounts for a relatively small percentage of the total contribution by all competitive products. Contribution from Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) should be even smaller. Inbound Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) should not impair the ability of competitive products on the whole to cover an appropriate share of institutional costs.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Phelps

12/11/14  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



August 27, 2014

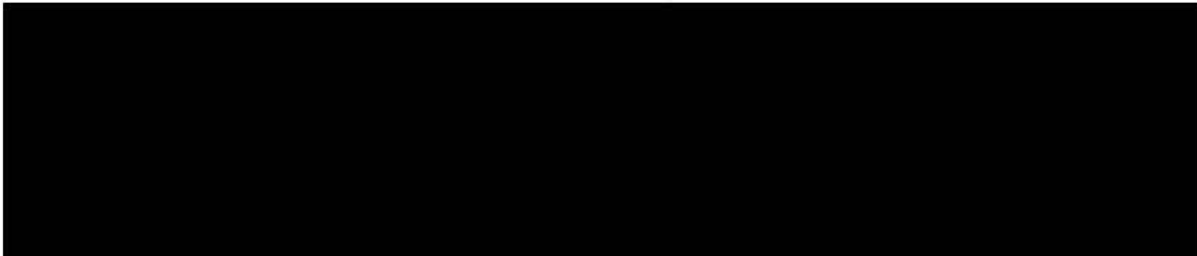
Ms. Christine Bétrémieux  
Economic and Regulatory Affairs Directorate  
UPU International Bureau  
P.O. Box 312  
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SWITZERLAND

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Dear Ms. Bétrémieux:

The United States wishes to claim an adjustment for inflation to its base inward land rates for the delivery of parcels.

Enclosed is an excerpt from the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics that records the consumer price index (CPI-U) for the United States as of July. This same official source also contains the percent change in the U.S. consumer price index from July 2013 to July 2014.



Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lea Emerson".

Lea Emerson

Enclosure

cc: Joe Murphy, U.S. State Department

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by expenditure category, July 2014  
[1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted]

Expenditure category	Relative importance Jun. 2014	Unadjusted indexes			Unadjusted percent change		Seasonally adjusted percent change		
		Jul. 2013	Jun. 2014	Jul. 2014	Jul. 2013-Jul. 2014	Jun. 2014-Jul. 2014	Apr. 2014-May 2014	May 2014-Jun. 2014	Jun. 2014-Jul. 2014
All items	100.000	233.596	238.343	238.250	2.0	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.1
Food	13.837	237.001	242.326	243.034	2.5	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.4
Food at home	8.188	233.591	239.147	239.820	2.7	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.4
Cereals and bakery products	1.122	271.279	270.860	271.993	0.3	0.4	-0.1	-0.2	0.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	1.922	235.859	252.865	253.767	7.6	0.4	1.4	0.2	0.3
Dairy and related products	0.865	215.920	224.522	225.140	4.3	0.3	0.6	-0.4	0.3
Fruits and vegetables	1.348	287.773	295.139	293.535	2.0	-0.5	1.1	-0.3	0.0
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	0.928	165.412	164.700	165.211	-0.1	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.5
Other food at home	2.004	205.872	205.996	207.390	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.7
Food away from home	5.649	243.409	248.445	249.210	2.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
Energy	9.799	251.370	258.858	257.907	2.6	-0.8	0.9	1.6	-0.3
Energy commodities	5.825	314.380	322.920	318.294	1.2	-1.4	0.6	3.0	-0.3
Fuel oil	0.167	355.780	370.317	367.725	2.2	-0.7	-1.4	-1.7	-0.7
Motor fuel	5.686	311.757	319.692	314.901	1.0	-1.5	0.8	3.3	-0.3
Gasoline (all types)	5.480	310.886	318.334	313.514	0.8	-1.5	0.7	3.3	-0.3
Energy services	3.974	202.087	211.038	211.563	4.7	0.2	1.4	-0.4	-0.4
Electricity	3.084	209.538	217.529	217.930	4.0	0.2	2.3	0.2	-0.3
Utility (piped) gas service	0.890	177.356	186.769	189.659	6.9	0.5	-1.7	-2.6	-0.4
All items less food and energy	76.364	233.792	238.157	238.138	1.9	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1
Commodities less food and energy	19.379	146.872	147.087	146.452	-0.3	-0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0
Apparel	3.383	124.215	127.302	124.845	0.3	-2.1	0.3	0.5	0.2
New vehicles	3.467	145.726	146.067	146.086	0.2	0.0	0.2	-0.3	0.3
Used cars and trucks	1.678	152.554	151.978	152.857	0.2	0.6	-0.1	-0.4	-0.3
Medical care commodities	1.713	334.673	343.224	344.887	3.0	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.3
Alcoholic beverages	0.990	235.022	236.569	236.087	0.6	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Tobacco and smoking products	0.700	881.770	907.216	904.614	2.6	-0.3	0.2	1.0	-0.3
Services less energy services	56.985	286.617	293.668	294.068	2.6	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1
Shelter	31.840	263.451	270.314	271.115	2.9	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
Rent of primary residence	6.913	267.482	275.321	276.248	3.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Owners' equivalent rent of residences	23.635	270.537	277.256	277.686	2.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Medical care services	5.812	452.773	464.960	465.166	2.5	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.1
Physicians' services	1.555	354.776	359.056	358.585	1.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.3	-0.2
Hospital services	1.800	263.688	276.695	275.587	6.0	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4
Transportation services	5.559	251.080	259.016	258.239	1.8	-1.0	1.0	0.1	-0.7
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.138	262.229	265.656	266.282	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Motor vehicle insurance	2.199	420.073	435.854	436.342	3.9	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.2
Airline fare	0.825	315.789	342.697	315.012	-0.2	-8.1	5.8	0.4	-5.9

Not seasonally adjusted.  
<sup>1</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.  
<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.  
<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.  
NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.